REMARKS

In response to the Official Action mailed July 10, 2003, Applicants amend their application and request reconsideration. No claims are added or cancelled in this amendment, so that claims 1-15 remain pending. Pursuant to a species election requirement and an election, only claims 1-4 are currently being examined. However, claim 1 is acknowledged to be generic claim. Therefore, upon allowance of that claim, Applicants intend to rejoin to the prosecution claims 5-15.

Claim 4 was indicated to be allowable.

In this Amendment one word of claim 1 is replaced. This replacement is in the nature of correcting a typographical error and is not made in response to the prior art rejection that is discussed below.

Claims 1-3 were rejected as anticipated by Saitou (U.S. Patent 6,346,859). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner carefully explained his application of Figures 17 and 18 of Saitou in the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 3. Of course, in order for that rejection to be proper, each of the elements of those claims must be described in Saitou. That stringent test is not met in this instance because the Examiner has not pointed out where a main circuit in Saitou includes a first pad.

Figure 17 of Saitou shows, schematically, an electrical circuit. Figure 18 of Saitou shows a partially pictorial view of the same circuit (Figure 18 is partially schematic). In describing the circuit, the Examiner characterized as the main circuit having an active element of claim 1, the transistor 10 and the output line 20 of Saitou. Applicants do not disagree with this comparison. However, the comparison is missing the first pad that is part of the main circuit according to claim 1.

In making the comparison to Saitou, the Examiner characterized the filter block 21 and the capacitor 22 of Saitou as a circuit block. Applicants agree with that characterization.

The Examiner directed attention to the bonding wire L, which has an inductance, as connecting "a first pad (of the main circuit) and a second pad connected to the circuit block...". Applicants cannot agree with this characterization of Saitou. Clearly, as shown in Figure 18 of Saitou, the wire L connects two bonding pads that are within the circuit block 21, as the Examiner has characterized the filter unit. Neither one of the pads to which the wire L is connected can possibly be considered part of the main circuit because the wire L is entirely within the outline 21 that defines the circuit block as cited by the Examiner.

With regard to the final paragraph of claim 1, the wire L clearly connects a first pad to a second pad that is within and connected to the circuit block. However, the first pad is part of the circuit block, not the main circuit. As just stated, the wire is not connected to a first pad that is part of the main circuit.

There is not the exact agreement between Saitou and claim 1 that is required for Saitou to anticipate that claim. It follows that Saitou cannot anticipate either of claims 2 and 3. In that regard, claim 2 points out that the first pad is located between the input terminal and the output terminal of the main circuit. Neither of the bonding pads within the circuit block 21 of Saitou could be considered to be located between an input terminal, i.e., the gate of the transistor 10, and the output terminal, i.e., the free end of the transmission line 20 shown in Figure 17 of Saitou. This additional difference emphasizes the failure of Saitou to anticipate either of claims 1 and 2.

Since Saitou lacks an element that might correspond to the first pad of the main circuit, it follows that Saitou cannot suggest, by itself, the structure that is defined by claim 1 and, therefore, by claims 1-3.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-4 as well as rejoinder of clams 5-15 to the prosecution are appropriate and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Wyand, Reg. No. 29,458
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER
700 Thirteenth Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005-3960
(202) 737-6770 (telephone)
(202) 737-6776 (facsimile)

Date Sept 8, 2003
JAW:ves